

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
STATE OF MONTANA

BRIAN SCHWEITZER
GOVERNOR



JOHN BOHLINGER
LT. GOVERNOR

September 15, 2008

Ed Schafer, Secretary
U.S. Department of Agriculture
1400 Independence Avenue SW
Washington, D.C. 20250

Dear Secretary Schafer:

I have received a request for Natural Disaster Determination (NDD) by the US Secretary of Agriculture from Madison County.

On the afternoon of July 22, 2008, areas of Madison County in the vicinity of Sheridan, Ennis, Twin Bridges and Harrison were struck by a severe storm. This unusual storm included heavy winds, excessive rain, areas of hail and brief flooding in several drainages. The community of Sheridan still shows the remains of large sized hail as siding, roofs and crops were visibly devastated. The golf ball sized hail lasted 25-30 minutes and winds measured at 80 miles per hour and greater severely impacting crops, trees, pastures and structures in the area. Landowners, businesses and producers all were impacted and suffered losses from this weather incident.

I am forwarding a copy of this letter to the State Farm Service Agency office so they may begin to compile the necessary damage assessment information.

Your prompt review and approval of this request will be greatly appreciated. Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,

A blue ink signature of Brian Schweitzer, consisting of stylized initials and a surname.

BRIAN SCHWEITZER
Governor

cc: Lieutenant Governor John Bohlinger
Ron de Yong, Department of Agriculture
Brigadier General John Walsh, Department of Military Affairs
Jan Traynor, Disaster & Emergency Services
Randy Johnson, Farm Services Agency
Jesse Aber, Department of Natural Resource & Conservation
County Commissioners